

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

How To Maintain Your Walk-Behind Lawn Mower

(NAPSA)—The grass can be greener on your side of the fence if you make sure that when you're ready to cut the lawn, your mower is good to go.

It all boils down to inspecting and replacing the air filter, which is the number-one cause of a “no start” condition, say experts at Murray. The first thing to do when working on your mower is to disconnect the spark plug to prevent accidents.

A Thorough Cleaning

Step one is a thorough cleaning: Removing dirt and grime makes it easier to find problems such as a worn fuel line or a chafed electrical cable.

After you have checked the blade for excess wear and cracks, sharpen it on a grinder or with a file. If it needs more than a light sharpening, make sure it's balanced before remounting it.

Drain The Fuel System

Manufacturers generally recommend one of two options. The first is to drain the fuel system before each mowing season. Another alternative is to add a stabilizer to the fuel to help prevent the fuel from going bad.

To help prevent corrosion on the



READY TO MOW? Before your mower gets the green starting flag, give it a good inspection.

piston and cylinder walls, some manufacturers suggest removing the spark plug and squirting motor or fogging oil into the spark plug hole. Although this won't do any harm, it probably is not necessary.

Change The Oil

If you haven't changed the oil recently, do it now. In fact, it's a good idea to change the oil at the beginning of each mowing season. Also check the air filter and clean it if necessary.

For more tips on mower maintenance, visit www.murray.com.